



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



# News Release

Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture  
4050 Crums Mill Rd, Suite 203 · Harrisburg, PA 17112

**Results** of a recent survey are contained in this release. You can also find it on our site at [www.nass.usda.gov/pa/](http://www.nass.usda.gov/pa/) and click on the Pennsylvania Publications link.

Contact: Kevin Pautler, 717-787-3904  
[nass-pa@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass-pa@nass.usda.gov)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## Pennsylvania Tart Cherry Production

HARRISBURG, PA, Jun 23, 2011 - - - Pennsylvania's 2011 tart cherry production is forecast at 3.20 million pounds, 39 percent above last year's production of 2.30 million pounds but down 18 percent from 2009, according to the Pennsylvania Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service.

U.S. tart production for 2011 is forecast at 266 million pounds, up 40 percent from the 2010 production but down 26 percent from 2009.

Michigan, the largest producing state, expects a crop of 210 million pounds, up 56 percent from the 2010 crop but 21 percent below 2009. Development of the crop was behind normal due to below average spring temperatures. The bloom was reported to be excellent despite cool, wet conditions which hampered pollination in many locations.

Washington expects to produce 12.0 million pounds of tart cherries in 2011, down 22 percent from 2010 and 28 percent lower than 2009. Washington experienced cold weather and wet conditions in the spring. Frost was a problem during bloom and conditions were less than optimal for pollination.

Utah production is forecast at 24.0 million pounds, up 4 percent from 2010 but down 49 percent from 2009. Production is expected to be above last year despite reports of wind damage. Maturation of the cherries was reported to be uneven with some cherries turning yellow.

New York is expected to produce 6.50 million pounds of tart cherries, 17 percent lower than the 2010 crop and 42 percent below 2009. Growers are expecting record low production. Lake Ontario growers reported that excessive rain and lack of pollination affected the production potential this year. The Finger Lakes area was impacted by heavy snowfall in the winter and cold temperatures in the spring.

Oregon's production is forecast at 1.70 million pounds, up 42 percent from 2010 but 47 percent below the production in 2009. Production was reported to be larger than the previous year, but not as large as two years ago due to cool, wet spring weather that limited bee activity and pollination.

Wisconsin production is forecast at 8.70 million pounds, up 53 percent from last year but down 20 percent from 2009. Cool spring conditions led to a later and longer bloom than normal. Despite the cool weather, little frost damage was reported.

- # -

*Find agricultural statistics for your county, State, and the Nation at [www.usda.gov/nass/](http://www.usda.gov/nass/).*